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The *Orinoco* to New York via the Spanish Main, and the *Justin*, *Norse Prince*, and *Boniface* were fumigated.

Sanitary conditions remain good, no quarantinable diseases being reported for the week for the port or island.

BRITISH HONDURAS.

Report from Belize, fruit port.

Acting Assistant Surgeon Mengis reports:

Week ended September 10. Present officially estimated population, 10,000. General sanitary condition of this port and the surrounding country during the week, very good.

Bills of health issued to the following-named vessels:

Date.	Vessel.	Destination.	Number of crew.	Number of passengers from this port.	Number of passengers in transit.
Sept. 4	Belize	Mobile	19	4	3
4	Preston	New Orleans	37	17	22
5	Frutera	New York via Central American ports.	26	0	0
8	Fred W. Homans	Tampa, Fla.	5	0	0
8	Hermia	New York	22	1	0

CHINA.

Report from Hankau—Status of cholera.

Vice-Consul-General Pontius reports, August 5:

No new cases of cholera have appeared among the foreign population of this port during the last 10 days. In all there were 10 cases and 7 deaths among foreigners, two of whom were Japanese.

The total deaths in Wuchang, Hanyang, and Hankau amount to more than 1,500, and cholera is still epidemic in those districts. The military encampment at Wuchang has suffered severely from the epidemic, 100 cases having been reported.

COLOMBIA.

Report from Barranquilla—Sanitary conditions.

Consul Eberhardt reports, August 25:

The declared death rate at Barranquilla for the years 1906 and 1907 was, respectively, 27+ and 22+ per thousand. The population of Barranquilla is estimated at from 40,000 to 50,000. An adequate sewer system is lacking throughout the city. No systematic attempt whatever is made for proper drainage, the sewage from the homes of the better classes being diverted usually into underground cesspools, a very short distance from the houses, while the poorer classes make no attempt at disposing of such filth further than to have it conveyed by small drains to the nearest street or possibly into the back yard. No provision is made for draining this deposit from the streets. Rains are infrequent during the greater part of the year. The streets are

unpaved and usually ankle deep with sand, which absorbs much of the moisture. The extreme heat causes quick evaporation. Standing water or sewage is rarely seen on the streets for any length of time. The hordes of mongrel dogs and buzzards, which constitute a very practical and helpful scavenger force, also do much to help bring about this condition.

I am informed that water-closets, cesspools, etc., are by law required to be disinfected at frequent intervals, but so far as I can learn there is no system of ascertaining whether or not these requirements are observed. The dumping ground at the edge of the city, where all refuse, dead animals, etc., are supposed to be burned, is not always made use of.

Mosquitoes exist in great numbers, but they are much less in evidence in the homes situated in the upper part of the city than in those of the low-lying districts adjacent to the river.

Rains, while not of frequent occurrence even during what is known as the rainy season, are apt to be more or less like a cloudburst when they do occur. At such times the cross streets become streams of from 1 to 3 feet in depth in many places, sand being washed over the walks and tracks. The Magdalena River receives all this water, and at the same time furnishes the water supply for Barranquilla, the water being pumped into a large reservoir, from which it is piped to all parts of the city into the homes of the better classes, while the poorer classes procure their supply from stations at street corners in various parts of the city.

The average temperature, in the shade, during the year is 85° F., and, as is the case in most tropical countries, a great amount of all kinds of native fruits is eaten by the inhabitants, the poorer classes being largely dependent upon such articles as a means of existence. The common diseases are malarial, tropical, and intestinal fevers, dysentery, and diarrhea. The death rate among infants is appalling, nearly 53 per cent of the deaths of a recent week, taken as an example, having been among infants of less than 1 year of age.

Of the quarantinable diseases I am informed that typhus fever is very rarely encountered. Cases of leprosy are not infrequent, but they are always immediately taken in charge and the patients sent to Caño de Loro, a leper colony near Cartagena. Yellow fever has not appeared in epidemic form since 1905. Only two known cases appeared in Barranquilla during 1907, and in each case the patient was immediately isolated and recovered. The older inhabitants tell of experiences and fix dates "from the time of the cholera," but that was many years ago and no cases have appeared since then. Bubonic plague has never been known here, and not only the health authorities, but the greater number of the citizens, realizing fully the grave danger and menace its entrance and existence would constitute for the public health and business interests of Barranquilla, are determined to spare no efforts to prevent such a condition being brought about.

The very strictest quarantine is being enforced between this port, Trinidad, and La Guaira, and no vessels from either of the ports named have been received for months, though recently a number that had merely taken on mail at those ports attempted to enter here and were refused admittance.